

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Masayuki FUKUI et al. )  
) Group Art Unit: TBA  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
) Examiner: TBA  
Filed: March 24, 2004 )  
)  
For: PROTECTING DEVICE FOR )  
CONNECTOR AND )  
CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY )  
WITH THE SAME

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the document listed on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed document is attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the document listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate it was considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language. An English language abstract is attached.

1. Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-154545 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.


This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 24, 2004

By:   
David W. Hill  
Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures  
DWH/FPD/cma

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No. 06753.0575	Application No. TBA
Applicants Masayuki FUKUI et al.	
Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group: TBA

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
10-154545	06/09/1998	Japan			Abstract

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce